

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY

251 N. Hillcrest Street
Liberty, South Carolina 29657

GRADES K-4 Elementary School

ENROLLMENT 817 Students

PRINCIPAL Connie McDowell 864-843-5820

SUPERINTENDENT Dr. Mendel Stewart 864-855-8150

BOARD CHAIR Mr. Dan Sharpe 864-878-3847

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2004

ABSOLUTE RATING:

EXCELLENT

Absolute Ratings of Elementary Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
8	50	35	0	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

EXCELLENT

The school's Improvement rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students.

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

YES

This school met 15 out of 15 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Good	Average	N/A
2002	Excellent	Excellent	N/A
2003	Excellent	Excellent	No
2004	Excellent	Excellent	Yes

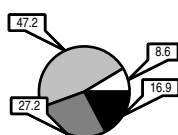
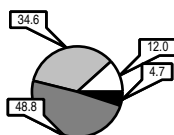
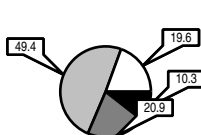
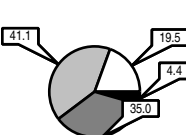
DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- **Excellent** - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Good** - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Average** - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Below Average** - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Unsatisfactory** - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

PERCENT OF STUDENT RECORDS MATCHED FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING IMPROVEMENT RATING

Percent of students tested in 2003-04 whose 2002-03 test scores were located.

47.2%

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT)**Our School****Elementary Schools with Students like Ours****Mathematics****English/Language Arts****Mathematics****English/Language Arts****Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 17.6%									
All Students	318	99.7	11.7	34.7	49.0	4.7	64.3	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	157	99.4	13.7	37.7	45.2	3.4	59.6		
Female	161	100.0	9.7	31.8	52.6	5.8	68.8		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	295	99.7	11.8	33.7	49.8	4.7	64.9	Yes	Yes
African-American	22	100.0	10.0	45.0	40.0	5.0	55.0	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islanders	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not disabled	271	100.0	6.6	34.4	53.5	5.5	70.3		
Disabled	47	97.9	40.9	36.4	22.7	0.0	29.5	I/S	Yes
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-migrant	318	99.7	11.7	34.7	49.0	4.7	64.3		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	315	99.7	11.4	34.7	49.2	4.7	64.6		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	178	99.4	14.7	37.4	43.6	4.3	57.7	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	140	100.0	8.0	31.4	55.5	5.1	72.3		

Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 15.5%									
All Students	318	100.0	8.6	47.2	27.2	16.9	56.8	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	157	100.0	8.8	46.3	25.9	19.0	59.2		
Female	161	100.0	8.4	48.1	28.6	14.9	54.5		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	295	100.0	8.2	46.1	28.2	17.5	57.5	Yes	Yes
African-American	22	100.0	15.0	60.0	15.0	10.0	50.0	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not disabled	271	100.0	4.7	45.3	30.9	19.1	63.3		
Disabled	47	100.0	31.1	57.8	6.7	4.4	20.0	I/S	Yes
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-migrant	318	100.0	8.6	47.2	27.2	16.9	56.8		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	315	100.0	8.4	47.3	27.2	17.1	56.7		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	178	100.0	11.6	56.7	20.7	11.0	44.5	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	140	100.0	5.1	35.8	35.0	24.1	71.5		

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL

		<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced</i>
English/Language Arts								
2003	Grade 3	147	98.0	12.4	42.3	43.1	2.2	45.3
	Grade 4	170	100.0	13.1	45.0	39.4	2.5	41.9
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	Grade 3	162	100.0	10.8	33.5	49.4	6.3	55.7
	Grade 4	156	99.4	12.8	37.8	46.6	2.7	49.3
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics								
2003	Grade 3	147	100.0	15.0	44.3	24.3	16.4	40.7
	Grade 4	170	100.0	8.8	42.5	26.3	22.5	48.8
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	Grade 3	162	100.0	8.9	53.2	27.8	10.1	38.0
	Grade 4	156	100.0	9.4	40.9	26.2	23.5	49.7
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n= 817)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	N/C	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	3.1%	Down from 4.2%	3.0%	2.7%
Attendance rate	96.5%	Up from 96.1%	96.3%	96.4%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	4.4%		5.1%	4.6%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (Math) off grade level	4.4%		3.7%	3.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	12.1%	Down from 13.3%	14.6%	13.5%
On academic plans	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
On academic probation	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	6.9%	Down from 7.1%	9.1%	8.2%
Older than usual for grade	0.9%	Up from 0.5%	0.9%	0.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	Down from 0.1%	0.0%	0.0%

Teachers (n= 57)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	47.4%	Up from 44.1%	50.0%	51.4%
Continuing contract teachers	91.2%	Down from 91.5%	89.5%	87.5%
Highly qualified teachers**	98.0%	N/A	94.1%	95.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%		0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	90.0%	Down from 92.4%	87.0%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	95.3%	Up from 95.0%	94.9%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$40,111	Up 1.2%	\$40,629	\$40,760
Prof. development days/teacher	10.4 days	Up from 9.0 days	12.4 days	12.4 days

School				
Principal's years at school	4.0	Up from 3.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.5 to 1	Down from 19.7 to 1	19.2 to 1	18.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.0%	Up from 90.3%	89.8%	90.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,819	Up 4.1%	\$5,825	\$6,044
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	63.9%	Down from 65.0%	65.8%	65.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	99.0%	No change	99.0%	99.0%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	N/A	Good	Good

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	93.6%	92.0%
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	N/A	91.1%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Highly qualified teachers in this school**	65.0%	Yes
Student attendance in this school	95.3%	Yes

**NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The mission of Liberty Elementary School, with its professional dedication to all children, is to nurture the desire to learn and provide a foundation for high academic achievement and life-long learning through quality education in a caring and safe environment. Liberty Elementary is a Title One school that serves 840 students in grades 4K through the fourth grade. Our PTA and School Improvement Council are an integral part of our total program. We believe that a strong parent, teacher, and student relationship is an essential part of the mission of our school. We have over 150 trained volunteers that assist the school with a variety of services and activities. Communication is enhanced through our Thursday folders and our school agendas.

For two consecutive years, Liberty has received the Palmetto Gold Award. Last year, Liberty was awarded the Exemplary Writing Award. Our highly trained staff utilizes many best practices. These practices include Thinking Maps, Write from the Beginning, Standards in Practice, Science HUB kits, Edu Tests, and Achieve Now. We have three full-time Reading Recovery teachers who serve first grade students that qualify for the program. Classroom guidance is provided to all students on a regular basis. Computer classes are provided for students in grades one through four.

Liberty Elementary promotes a positive learning environment with incentives such as the Principal's Good Book, Accelerated Reader Goal Setting; along with attendance and honor roll recognition. Parent Night, Chorus presentations, a Talent Show, Artist-In-Residence, Student Council, School Crossing Guards, Flag Patrol, Youth Art Month, Accelerated Reading Program, and Reading Buddies are some of the programs offered for our students. Our students also have the opportunity to publish their writing in our Book Nook. Finally, service learning is promoted with various curriculum initiatives.

We believe that our number one priority is student achievement. Liberty Elementary School offers a safe, child-centered learning environment, where all children can learn. Jan Whitworth serves as the chair of the School Improvement Council. Connie McDowell is the principal.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	60	132	110
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	93.1%	95.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	91.6%	92.6%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	86.4%	91.7%	79.8%

*Only students at the highest elementary school grade level at this school and their parents were included.